

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 FSI-01 L-02 CU-02 USIA-06 INR-07

SCA-01 /031 W

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R 280852Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8343

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AFSI, JA

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC STATUS OF OFFICIAL STUDENTS

REF: STATE 038227

1. EMBASSY FEB 25 INFORMED FONOFF PROTOCOL DEPDIR NOMURA OF DEPARTMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO AFFORD DIPLOMATIC STATUS TO JAPANESE FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS STUDYING IN THE U.S. ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS. NOMURA WELCOMED US POSITION AND PROMISED TO STUDY AND PROVIDE PROMPT REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL. IN THE MEANTIME, HE ASSURED US THAT FSIO DWAYNE KING WOULD RECEIVE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES CURRENTLY AFFORDED YOKOHAMA STUDENTS SHOULD HE ARRIVE PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF FINAL AGREEMENT ON RECIPROCAL DIPLOMATIC STATUS. HE ASKED THAT SAME COURTESY APPLY TO FONOFF STUDENT TAKANO WHO IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON TO STUDY AT BROOKINGS END OF MARCH.

2. ANSWERS TO REFTEL QUESTIONS FOR EMBASSY AS FOLLOWS:

1) OFFICERS AT YOKOHAMA LANGUAGE SCHOOL RECEIVE SAME PRIVILEGES AS EMBASSY OFFICERS, INCLUDING TAX-FREE IMPORT, LOCAL PURCHASE AND REGISTRATION OF PRIVATELY-OWNED VEHICLES; DRIVERS LICENSE WITHOUT FEE; TAX-FREE PURCHASE OF GASOLINE UP TO 400 LITERS A MONTH (AVAILABLE ONLY AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS OUTSIDE OF TOKYO); AND DUTY-FREE IMPORT OF

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HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS.

2) LANGUAGE SCHOOL OFFICERS AND EMBASSY OFFICERS RECEIVE SAME DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES. WITHOUT PRIVILEGES, ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WOULD BE SEVERELY COMPLICATED. STUDENTS WOULD BE OUT OF POCKETS SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR TAXES ON IMPORT OR PURCHASE OF POV'S. IN ADDITION, WITHDRAWAL OF PRIVILEGES WOULD CREATE GAP IN STATUS BETWEEN AMERICAN LANGUAGE STUDENTS AND DIPLOMATS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS STUDYING AT SCHOOL WHICH COULD DEVELOP INTO SERIOUS MORALE PROBLEM.

3) ONLY PRIVILEGE AFFECTED BY RESIDENCE OUTSIDE OF CAPITAL IS AVAILABILITY OF TAX-FREE GAS.

4) NEITHER EMBASSY NOR LANGUAGE SCHOOL OFFICERS CAN ESCAPE INDIRECT TAXATION OR SALES TAXES WHICH GOJ CONTENDS ARE INDIRECT.

5) INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE SCHOOL OFFICERS ON DIPLOMATIC LIST IN TOKYO IS NOT AN ISSUE HERE, SINCE MANY EMBASSY OFFICERS WITH DIPLOMATIC STATUS ARE NOT LISTED.

3. EMBASSY FAVORS EXCHANGE OF LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RESPECTIVE AMBASSADORS AND CHIEFS OF PROTOCOL WORDED TO LEAVE OPEN OPTIONS DESCRIBED REFTTEL PARA 3. ALTHOUGH WE DID NOT RAISE QUESTION WITH FONOFF, PROTOCOL DEPT IS AWARE OF PROPOSAL AND HAS VOICED NO OBJECTION. HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, STUDENTS, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 FEB 1975  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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